APPENDIX 7 – STANDS DROPPED FROM STUDY

Stand 33202009
(Dropped From The Monitoring Project)

Stand 33202009 is the redelineated harvested subpart of five parent stands. Four of the parent stands had exams showing the stands were very close to meeting the old growth minimum criteria for eight large trees per acre – the statistics for each stand showed means of seven large trees per acre with standard errors of two to four trees per acre. One parent stand showed a mean of 22 large trees per acre. Prior to treatment, the stands were field checked and it was determined that they met the Green et al definitions of old growth. Large tree distribution is somewhat patchy throughout the area. The harvest was a shelterwood preparatory cut in 2000 that reserved large trees from harvest. The post-harvest monitoring exam showed a mean of three large trees per acre with a standard error of two trees per acre. Silviculturist Steve Slaughter has visited the area and determined that the monitoring exam design was not sufficient to adequately sample the patchy distribution of large trees. The previous exams in the five affected stands had a total of 52 plots while the monitoring exams on this stand and the adjacent 33202004 totaled only 20 plots on the same area. Since the large trees were reserved from harvest, they are still there as verified by Steve. Adequately sampling ages is problematic, according to Green et al (page 11). The prior exams in the five parent stands showed ages of 103 to 197 years in the large trees. This exam showed 105 to 128 years in the large trees. Although this exam showed the structural characteristics as described by Green et al for this old growth type have been maintained through the harvest, the large trees on this subset of the parent stands probably are not old enough to meet old growth definitions. Disregarding age as the least critical and verifiable of the old growth criteria in terms of meeting vegetative diversity of late seral and climax forest community types represented by old growth, this stand would be considered old growth.

Photos of stand 33202009 after harvest – probably too young for old growth

Stand 38001021
(Dropped From The Monitoring Project)

Stand 38001021 is in an area burned with mixed intensity in the Cooney Ridge fire in 2003; however, this stand did not burn at all. Given that there has not been any disturbance in this stand, the stand examination data before the fire compared to after the fire showing a reduction from 9 to 1 large trees per acre and reduction from 120 square feet of basal area per acre to 83 may be another example of the effects of plot locations in a variable stand.

Stand 38001035
(Dropped From The Monitoring Project)

Stand 38001035 burned with mixed intensity in the Cooney Ridge fire in 2003. This stand was dropped from the study because the exam was done in the wrong stand. This stand is subalpine fir habitat types, and it was burned in the Cooney Ridge fire. The stand examined was Douglas-fir habitat types, and the crew noted that the stand only burned on the north edge. The stand examined by the crew does meet Green et al old growth definitions, but it is not this stand.

Stand 38001056
(Dropped From The Monitoring Project)

Stand 38001056 burned with mixed intensity in the Cooney Ridge fire in 2003. Stand examination data from two exams before the fire compared to after the fire show a reduction from 36 and 55 to 19 large trees per acre, reduction from 200 and 160 square feet of basal area per acre to 70, and an increase from 6 to 31 snags per acre over 9 inches dbh. The age data for this exam shows the stand is younger than the minimum age for old growth. A previous exam indicated the stand was older. Based on the age of this stand (15 to 40 years younger than the minimum age of 140), the stand currently is not old growth but will be within a couple decades. Disregarding age as the least critical and verifiable of the old growth criteria in terms of meeting vegetative diversity of late seral and climax forest community types represented by old growth, this stand would be considered old growth

Photo of stand 38001056 three years after mixed intensity fire – not quite old growth

Stand 40106003
(Dropped From The Monitoring Project)

Stand 40106003 had an exam prior to harvest that showed a mean of eight large trees per acre. The harvest was an improvement cut in 2004 that reserved large trees from harvest. The post-harvest monitoring exam showed a mean of one large tree per acre with a standard error of one tree per acre. The stand exam crew determined the area never had many large trees based on the lack of large stumps and the lack of standing large trees. John Hamilton, the project crew leader, compared the map of this stand with the map of the stand with this number that was previously examined, and he was unable to confirm that the exams were on the same piece of ground. This stand was a young, even-aged, single story stand of about 80% Douglas-fir, 10% larch, and 10% ponderosa pine about 60 years old, compared to the original exam showing a stand with 75% ponderosa pine and 25% Douglas-fir about 180 years old. Silviculturist Steve Slaughter recognized the unit depicted in the photos. The crew examined the wrong stand. While stand 40106003 was appropriately included in the monitoring plan, the stand actually examined should not have been included in the monitoring. When the error was discovered, it was too late to examine the correct stand.

Stand examined as 40106003 – wrong stand- it was not old growth before treatment